

Appl. No. 10/725,248
Docket No. P145
Amdt. dated November 5, 2009
Reply to Office Action mailed on June 5, 2009
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An edible companion animal composition comprising from about 1% to about 10% of total fermentable fiber, by weight of the composition, wherein the composition ~~comprises a gravy; is a gravy which is adapted for use by a companion animal~~ wherein the composition comprises at least 80% water; and wherein the companion animal is selected from the group consisting of a domestic dog, cat, rabbit, ferret, horse, and cow.

2 - 6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The composition according to Claim 1 wherein the total fermentable fiber comprises a fiber selected from the group consisting of beet pulp, gum arabic, gum talha, psyllium, rice bran, carob bean gum, citrus pulp, pectin, fructooligosaccharide, mannanoligofructose, soy fiber, arabinogalactan, galactooligosaccharide, arabinoxylan, and mixtures thereof.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The composition according to Claim 7 further comprising one or more nutrients.

10. (Original) The composition according to Claim 9 further comprising meat protein.

11. (Original) The composition according to Claim 10 comprising at least about 0.5% protein and at least about 1% fat, by weight of the composition.

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12. (Original) The composition according to Claim 11 wherein the total fermentable fiber comprises a fiber selected from the group consisting of beet pulp, fructooligosaccharide, and mixtures thereof.

13. (Withdrawn) The composition according to Claim 12 wherein the total fermentable fiber comprises beet pulp and fructooligosaccharide.

14. (Currently Amended) An edible companion animal composition comprising from about 1% to about 10% of a fermentable fiber selected from the group consisting of beet pulp, short chain oligofructose comprising 1-kestose, nystose, and 1F-beta-fructofuranosylnystose, and mixtures thereof, wherein the composition comprises a gravy; is a gravy which is adapted for use by a companion animal
wherein the composition comprises at least 80% water; and
wherein the companion animal is selected from the group consisting of a domestic dog, cat, rabbit, ferret, horse, and cow.

15 - 19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The composition according to Claim 14 further comprising a further fermentable fiber selected from the group consisting of beet pulp, gum arabic, gum talha, psyllium, rice bran, carob bean gum, citrus pulp, pectin, fructooligosaccharide additional to the short chain oligofructose, mannanoligofructose, soy fiber, arabinogalactan, galactooligosaccharide, arabinoxylan, and mixtures thereof.

21. (Previously Presented) The composition according to Claim 14 further comprising one or more nutrients.

22. (Original) The composition according to Claim 21 further comprising meat protein.

23. (Original) The composition according to Claim 22 comprising at least about 0.5% protein and at least about 1% fat, by weight of the composition.

24. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising:

- (a) the composition according to Claim 1; and
- (b) information selected from the group consisting of:
 - (i) that the composition is adapted for use by a companion animal;
 - (ii) that the composition is useful for enhancing gastrointestinal health;
 - (iii) that the composition is useful for improving the fecal odor of the feces of a companion animal; and
 - (iv) combinations thereof.

25. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 24 wherein the composition comprises at least about 0.5% of total fermentable fiber, by weight of the composition.

26. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 25 wherein the total fermentable fiber comprises a fiber selected from the group consisting of beet pulp, gum arabic, gum talha, psyllium, rice bran, carob bean gum, citrus pulp, pectin, fructooligosaccharide, mannanoligofructose, soy fiber, arabinogalactan, galactooligosaccharide, arabinoxylan, and mixtures thereof.

27. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 26 wherein the composition comprises from about 1% to about 20% of total fermentable fiber, by weight of the composition.

28. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 27 wherein the composition is a drinking water.

29. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 27 wherein the composition is a gravy.

30. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 29 wherein the composition comprises from about 2% to about 10% of total fermentable fiber, by weight of the composition.

31. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising:

- (a) the composition according to Claim 14; and
- (b) information selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) that the composition is adapted for use by a companion animal;
- (ii) that the composition is useful for enhancing gastrointestinal health;
- (iii) that the composition is useful for improving the fecal odor of the feces of a companion animal; and
- (iv) combinations thereof.

32. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 31 wherein the composition comprises at least about 0.05% of total fermentable fiber, by weight of the composition.

33. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 32 wherein the composition further comprises a further fermentable fiber selected from the group consisting of beet pulp, gum arabic, gum talha, psyllium, rice bran, carob bean gum, citrus pulp, pectin, fructooligosaccharide additional to the short chain oligofructose, mannanoligofructose, soy fiber, arabinogalactan, galactooligosaccharide, arabinoxylan, and mixtures thereof.

34. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 32 wherein the composition comprises from about 0.1% to about 20% of total fermentable fiber, by weight of the composition.

35. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 34 wherein the composition is a drinking water.

36. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 34 wherein the composition is a gravy.

37. (Withdrawn) A method selected from the group consisting of enhancing gastrointestinal health of a companion animal, improving the fecal odor of the feces of a companion animal, reducing risk of cancer in a companion animal, and combinations thereof, comprising orally administering to the companion animal the composition according to Claim 1.

38. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 37 wherein the method comprises at least about 0.5% of total fermentable fiber, by weight of the composition.

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40. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 38 wherein the total fermentable fiber comprises a fiber selected from the group consisting of beet pulp, gum arabic, gum talha, psyllium, rice bran, carob bean gum, citrus pulp, pectin, fructooligosaccharide, mannanoligofructose, soy fiber, arabinogalactan, galactooligosaccharide, arabinoxylan, and mixtures thereof.

41. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 40 wherein the composition is a drinking water.

42. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 40 wherein the composition is a gravy.

43. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 42 wherein the oral administration is at least once daily.

44. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 42 wherein the composition is contacted with companion animal food prior to oral administration.

45. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 42 wherein the composition is admixed with companion animal food prior to oral administration.

46. (Withdrawn) A method selected from the group consisting of enhancing gastrointestinal health of a companion animal, improving the fecal odor of the feces of a companion animal, reducing risk of cancer in a companion animal, and combinations thereof, comprising orally administering to the companion animal the composition according to Claim 14.

47. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 46 wherein the composition comprises at least about 0.05% of total fermentable fiber, by weight of the composition.

48. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 47 wherein the composition is a drinking water.

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49. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 47 wherein the composition is a gravy.

50. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 49 wherein the oral administration is at least once daily.

51. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 50 wherein the oral administration is concurrent with feeding the companion animal.

52. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 49 wherein the composition is contacted with companion animal food prior to oral administration.

53. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 49 wherein the composition is admixed with companion animal food prior to oral administration.

54. (New) An edible companion animal composition comprising from about 1% to about 10% of total fermentable fiber, by weight of the composition, wherein the composition comprises a gravy;

wherein the composition comprises at least 80% water;

wherein the fermentable fiber comprises fructooligosaccharide; and

wherein the companion animal is selected from the group consisting of a domestic dog, cat, rabbit, ferret, horse, and cow.

55. (New) The composition of claim 54 and further comprising a fiber selected from the group consisting of beet pulp, gum arabic, gum talha, psyllium, rice bran, carob bean gum, citrus pulp, pectin, fructooligosaccharide, mannanoligofructose, soy fiber, arabinogalactan, galactooligosaccharide, arabinoxylan, and mixtures thereof.

56. (New) The composition of claim 54 and wherein the fructooligosaccharide is provided as chicory root.